

Registration. The reporting of Kansas vital events to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is mandated by law (K.S.A. 65-102, K.S.A. 65-2422b, K.S.A. 65-445). The filing of birth and death records was begun in 1911 and the registration of marriages and divorces was initiated in 1913 and 1951 respectively. The reporting of abortions began in 1970. Certificates of birth, death, stillbirth, marriage, marriage dissolution, and reports of abortion are completed by the combined efforts of physicians, hospital personnel, funeral directors, and local courts. All certificates and reports are filed with the Office of Vital Statistics by direct reporting. Since registration of vital events began, over ten million records have been processed, filed and indexed.

Quality of Data. The quality of the analyses in the *Annual Summary of Vital Statistics* depends on the accuracy of the Kansas vital statistics data. The Office of Vital Statistics makes every effort to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the certificates filed. An exchange agreement with all 57 registration states/jurisdictions and Canada ensures that vital events occurring to Kansas residents in other states or Canada are recorded. Tabulation of vital events for 2004 in-state occurrences is maintained through March 15, 2005, while out-of-state occurrences are maintained through May 1, 2005. Reports filed later consist of less than one percent of the total reports filed, are considered negligible, and are omitted from this report.

The tabulation of divorce statistics is impacted by the completeness of reporting by District Courts in Kansas. Despite efforts to assure 100 percent reporting compliance, it has been determined by the Center for Health and Environmental Statistics (CHES) that not all divorce and annulment certificates have been filed with the Center. The Center is unable to estimate how incomplete the reporting is. Users of marriage dissolution data should exercise caution before making any conclusions based on these data. The Center is obligated to report the data it collects, but recommends that any marriage dissolution data findings be accompanied by a statement that totals may not represent 100 percent of this vital event due to under-reporting.

Residence vs Occurrence Data. Residence data is information compiled according to the usual residence regardless of where the event occurred (including events occurring out-of-state). Occurrence data is information compiled according to the geographical location where the event took place, regardless of the actual residence. Information compiled for births, stillbirths, and deaths in this report are residence data, while marriages and marriage dissolutions are occurrence data and abortions are all reported (residence and occurrence).

Peer Groups. For various demographic studies, it is useful to consider groups of counties with similar characteristics. "Peer Groups" of counties, as used in this summary, are defined as those with similar population density based on their 2000 actual census counts. In order to facilitate a time series comparison the assignment of counties to their peer group remains unchanged until the next decennial census. They will not necessarily have similar values for any other indicators. Frontier counties are defined as those with less than 6.0 persons per square mile, Rural counties as those with 6.0 - 19.9 persons per square mile, Densely-Settled Rural counties as those with 20.0 - 39.9 persons per square mile, Semi-Urban counties as those with 40.0 - 149.9

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persons per square mile, and Urban counties as those with 150.0 or more persons per square mile. These definitions originated with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, [Office of Local and Rural Health](#), and should *not* be confused with the U.S. Census Bureau's (USCB) definitions of urban and rural areas. Sources for calculation of population densities are population figures from the 2000 U.S. Census and land areas from the 2000 U.S. Census.

Counties are grouped in population density peer groups as follows:

Frontier	Wallace	Rice	Osage
Barber	Wichita	Rooks	Pottawatomie
Chase		Russell	Seward
Cheyenne	Rural	Scott	Sumner
Clark	Anderson	Sherman	
Comanche	Brown	Stafford	Semi-Urban
Decatur	Chautauqua	Stevens	Butler
Edwards	Clay	Thomas	Crawford
Elk	Cloud	Wabaunsee	Franklin
Gove	Coffey	Washington	Geary
Graham	Ellsworth	Wilson	Harvey
Greeley	Grant	Woodson	Leavenworth
Hamilton	Gray		Lyon
Hodgeman	Greenwood	Densely-Settled	Miami
Jewell	Harper	Rural	Montgomery
Kearny	Haskell	Allen	Reno
Kiowa	Jackson	Atchison	Riley
Lane	Kingman	Barton	Saline
Lincoln	Linn	Bourbon	
Logan	Marion	Cherokee	Urban
Meade	Marshall	Cowley	Douglas
Morton	Mitchell	Dickinson	Johnson
Ness	Morris	Doniphan	Sedgwick
Osborne	Nemaha	Ellis	Shawnee
Rawlins	Norton	Finney	Wyandotte
Rush	Ottawa	Ford	
Sheridan	Pawnee	Jefferson	
Smith	Phillips	Labette	
Stanton	Pratt	McPherson	
Trego	Republic	Neosho	

Population. State, county, and city population counts for 2000 were obtained from the USCB on the Internet at: <http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>. Population estimates for 2001-2004 by the USCB and certified by the Kansas Division of the Budget were obtained on the internet at: <http://da.state.ks.us/budget/ecodemo.htm>.

Population estimates by age-group and sex for 1995-1996 were obtained from the Census and You, Vol. 29, No. 4, April 1994, Vol. 30, No. 4, April 1995, Vol. 31, No. 3, March, 1996 and Vol. 32, No. 7, July, 1997 USCB, respectively. Population estimates for 1997-1999 were obtained on the internet at: <http://eire.census.gov/popest/archives/1990.php>. Population counts for 2000 were obtained on the internet at <http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>.

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These numbers were used in age-specific and age-adjusted calculations. Population by age-group and sex was not available from the USCB for 2001 and was estimated by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment based on 2000 USCB numbers. Population estimates for 2002-2004 were obtained from the Bridged-race Vintage 2002, 2003 and 2004 postcensal series by year, age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, prepared under a collaborative arrangement between the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and the USCB. The population data are at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/dvs/popbridge/popbridge.htm>.

Due to rounding and variation in estimation methods within the USCB, some discrepancies may be found in population data. (Tables 2 and 4) Usually differences are negligible and rarely result in discrepancies in the totals. We advise you to utilize state totals from the county population totals when a total population estimate is needed.

Female Population 10-19. Estimates of the Kansas female population for 1995-1999 were obtained from the USCB, and actual population counts were used for 2000.

The 2001 state and county estimates for teenage females (10-14, 10-17, 15-19, 10-19) were compiled by the KDHE based on 2000 USCB numbers. In order to estimate the 2001 teenage female population for the various age groupings, the 2000 proportion for the age grouping within the total population had to be derived. These estimates were calculated as in the following example for 2001.

$$\begin{array}{rcccl} \text{Female Population 10-14 Year} & & & & \text{10-14 Year} \\ \text{Age Group (2000)} & & \times & \text{2001 Population} & = & \text{Age-Group} \\ \text{-----} & & & \text{All Ages} & & \text{(2001)} \\ \text{2000 Population All Ages} & & & & & \end{array}$$

The 2002-2004 estimates were prepared by the USCB in collaboration with the NCHS. (See above reference)

Deaths. Underlying causes of death in the *2004 Annual Summary of Vital Statistics* are established through a system known as the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10). This system promotes uniformity and comparability in the collection and presentation of mortality or death data. Prior to 1999, Kansas used ICD-9 to report mortality statistics. Periodically the classification system needs to be updated to address new diseases and reflect a better understanding of causes of death. The World Health Organization maintains ICD-10 and the NCHS, which compiles national statistics, modifies ICD-10 for use by Kansas and other states.

One of the challenges in the conversion to a new classification system is comparability with statistics compiled under the old system. Because so much has changed, exact comparison is not possible. Not only have the number of causes of death doubled to over 8,000, but the rules of how a death is coded have changed. Greater knowledge of diseases like Alzheimer's and diabetes has resulted in coding rule changes that will increase the number of cases reported. The rule changes may also lower the number of deaths classified as pneumonia and influenza. Death data from 1999 forward are classified by ICD-10, and trends in mortality will be comparable.

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Age-Adjusted Death Rates. Mortality rates, the number of deaths per 100,000 population, are a common way to report death statistics so that comparisons can be made from year to year or among geographic areas. Crude death rates compensate for the differences in population within the areas or time periods studied. Crude death rates, however, do not compensate for the different make up of compared populations. For example, some Kansas counties may have more older residents than other counties. To address this, statisticians prepare age-adjusted death rates. The direct method for calculating age-adjusted death rates was used in this report. Age-adjusting is a process by which the age composition of a population is defined as constant so that differences in age composition can be eliminated from the analysis. This is needed because older populations have higher death rates, merely because death rates increase with age. Age-adjusted rates allow for more meaningful comparison of the risk of mortality over time and among groups.

For this report, age-adjusted death rates were calculated using the 2000 population standard. Kansas began using the 2000 population standard, as recommended by NCHS, in the *1999 Annual Summary of Vital Statistics*. As part of its implementation of the new age-adjusting population standard, the CHES produced the report *Age Standardization of Kansas Death Rates: Implications of the Year 2000 Standard*. Copies can be obtained at the CHES Web site <http://www.kdheks.gov/ches/>.

Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL). The YPLL, for this report, is a measurement of the number of years of potential life lost by each death occurring before the average life expectancy. This calculation provides more information on the societal impact of mortality. Years of life lost counts deaths at a younger age more heavily than those at older ages (e.g., the younger person has a greater potential for years left than an elderly person). YPLL were calculated by subtracting mid-point years of the 5-year age-groups from life expectancies for all Kansans and male and female Kansans. The subtraction leaves a remainder - the years of potential life lost, which is then multiplied by the number of deaths in that particular age-group and subsequently all calculations for the five-year age-groups beginning with 0-4 and through over 85 are summed to provide the total years of life lost. In making the calculations, the age-groups with mid-points larger than the life expectancy were set to zero because they would not contribute years of life lost (e.g., they are over the life expectancy). For this report, the life expectancy for all Kansans is 77.4 years, males 74.9 and females 79.8 years. These 2000 life expectancies were prepared by the KDHE CHES. Since the *1992 Annual Summary of Vital Statistics*, CHES has used 1990 life tables prepared by the Kansas Division of the Budget. In an effort to update this data CHES has prepared the report *Abridged Life Tables, Kansas, 2000*. Copies can be obtained on the CHES website at: <http://www.kdheks.gov/ches/research.html>.

Rate Reliability. Vital statistics are easily influenced by random variation and single-year rates can fluctuate from year to year. A multiple-year rate such as a five- or ten-year average of single-year rates would be more accurate in formulating conclusions on vital events. For example, between 2000 and 2004 the infant death rate for Kansas ranged from 6.7 to 7.3, while the 2000-2004 five-year infant death rate for Kansas was 7.0 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. A five or ten-year rate smooths some of the variation in single-year rates and would be a more reliable indicator of infant death rates in Kansas.

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Rates based on a small or large number of events in a sparsely populated area can vary widely. To exemplify the variation that may occur with a small change in the number of events, in 2004 Greeley county was the least populated county in Kansas with 1,415 residents and Johnson county was the largest with 496,691 residents. With 27 deaths occurring in Greeley county in 2004, the crude death rate was 19.1 deaths per 1,000 population; whereas 2,827 deaths occurring in Johnson county resulted in a crude death rate of 5.7 deaths per 1,000 population. If five more deaths occurred in each county (e.g., multiple- death accident), Greeley county's crude death rate would have increased to 22.6, while Johnson county's rate would have increased by only a few hundredths and, with rounding, still remain 5.7 deaths per 1,000 population. Therefore, one must use caution when comparing rates of vital events between counties of extreme population size differences to avoid misleading conclusions.

Limitations of Pregnancy Outcome Data

From July, 1970 through June, 1995, only hospitals in Kansas were required by K.S.A. 65-445 to keep and submit to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Environment written records of all pregnancies terminated in the hospital. During this reporting period, nonhospital providers reported terminations only on a voluntary basis. Although Kansas had a comprehensive coverage of providers, there could have been a small number of abortions not reported. This means that the data may have been, to a certain degree, underreported. However, effective July 1, 1995, the Kansas legislature amended K.S.A. 65-445 in Senate Bill 384 to broaden the record-keeping and reporting requirement to include every medical care facility and every person licensed to practice medicine and surgery.

Criteria for the Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization (APNCU) INDEX.

I. Month prenatal care began (Adequacy of Initiation of Prenatal Care)

- Adequate Plus: 1st or 2nd month
- Adequate: 3rd or 4th month
- Intermediate: 5th or 6th month
- Inadequate: 7th month or later, or no prenatal care

II. Proportion of the number of visits recommended by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) received from the time prenatal care began until delivery (Adequacy of Received Services)

- Adequate Plus: 110% or more
- Adequate: 80% - 109%
- Intermediate: 50% - 79%
- Inadequate: less than 50%

III. Summary Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index

- Adequate Plus: Prenatal care begun by the 4th month and 110% or more of recommended visits received
- Adequate: Prenatal care begun by the 4th month and 80% - 109% of recommended visits received
- Intermediate: Prenatal care begun by the 4th month and 50% - 79% of recommended visits received
- Inadequate: Prenatal care begun after the 4th month or less than 50% of recommended visits received

Technical Notes (Cont.)

The bibliographic reference relating to this index is: Kotelchuck, Milton. "An Evaluation of the Kessner Adequacy of Prenatal Care Index and a Proposed Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization Index.", *American Journal of Public Health*, 1994; 84(9): 1414-1420.

Handling of Unknowns. Items for which no response was provided are shown as "not stated" (N.S.) in the tables and graphs throughout this publication. To ensure the accuracy of the data, the "not stated" have been removed from totals when calculating percentages.

DEFINITIONS

The following terms, formulas and symbols are defined for more meaningful interpretations of the data contained in this report.

Abortion (induced termination of pregnancy):	The purposeful interruption of pregnancy with the intention other than to produce a live-born infant or to remove a dead fetus and which does not result in a live birth.
Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization (APNCU) Index:	An assessment of the adequacy of prenatal care measured by the APNCU Index (often referred to as the Kotelchuck Index), a composite measure based on gestational age of the newborn, the trimester prenatal care began, and the number of prenatal visits made.
Age-Adjusted Death Rate:	A calculation by which the age composition of a population is defined as constant so that differences in age composition can be eliminated from the analysis.
Annulment:	The invalidation of a marriage contract.
Birth Order	Live birth order is determined from birth certificates specifying the total number of live births (living and dead) the mother had. It is calculated as the sum of the prior live births plus the current birth.
Birth Weight:	The weight of the fetus or infant at the time of delivery.
Cause of Death:	The underlying cause of death, or that condition giving rise to the chain of events leading to death.
Congenital Anomalies:	Defects existing at and usually before birth regardless of causation.
Divorce:	The dissolution of a legally binding marriage contract.
Hebdomadal Death:	The death of a live-born infant which occurs prior to the seventh day of life.
ICD Code:	The cause-identifying number classified in the Tenth Revision of the <i>International Classification of Diseases</i> implemented by NCHS for deaths in 1999.
Infant Death:	The death of a live-born infant which occurs within the first year of life.
Live Birth:	The complete expulsion or extraction of a product of human conception from its mother, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, that, after such expulsion or extraction, shows any evidence of life such as breathing, heartbeat, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or voluntary muscle movement, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta attached.

DEFINITIONS (Cont.)

Low Birth Weight:	Weight of a fetus or infant at delivery which is under 2,500 grams (less than five pounds, 8 ounces).
Marriage:	The legal union of a male and female.
Marriage Dissolution:	A marriage dissolved by either a divorce or an annulment.
Maternal Death:	The death of a mother caused by complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium.
Medical Procedure I:	Refers to use of the drug mifepristone as a pregnancy termination procedure.
Medical Procedure II:	Refers to use of the drug methotrexate as a pregnancy termination procedure.
Natural Increase:	Live births minus total deaths of a population within a given year.
Neonatal Death:	The death of a live-born infant which occurs prior to the twenty-eighth day of life.
Occurrence Data:	Vital statistics compiled on the basis of where the vital event happened.
Out-of-Wedlock Birth:	A birth occurring to a mother who is not married at the time of conception or at the time of birth or at any time between conception and birth.
Peer Group:	A group of counties with similar population densities in persons per square mile, as adopted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Local and Rural Health.
Perinatal Period III Death:	The aggregate total of stillbirths (fetus weighs over 350 grams) and hebdomadal deaths (deaths that occur prior to the 7th day of life).
Population Density:	The average number of inhabitants per square mile.
Prenatal Care:	Pregnancy-related health care services provided to a woman between conception and delivery.
Previous Pregnancy:	Includes all previous reported spontaneous Terminations, previous induced abortions, children born still living and children born now dead.
Puerperium:	Period of time after delivery, usually six to eight weeks, during which all maternal reproductive organs return to the normal pre-pregnancy condition.

DEFINITIONS (Cont.)

Stillbirth:	Any complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of human conception, the weight of which is in excess of 350 grams, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, resulting in other than a live birth, and which is not an induced termination of pregnancy.
Residence Data:	Vital statistics compiled on the basis of the usual place of residence of the person(s) to whom the vital event occurred.
Teenage Pregnancy:	A live birth, stillbirth or abortion occurring to a female under 20 years of age.
Trimester:	A three-month period of time. First trimester care, for example, refers to care initiated in the first three months of pregnancy.
Very Low Birth Weight:	Weight of a fetus or infant at delivery which is under 1,500 grams (less than 3 pounds, 5 ounces).
Weeks Gestation:	The number of weeks between the last reported normal menses and the delivery of the fetus or infant.
Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL):	A measurement of the number of years of potential life lost by each death occurring before the average life expectancy.

RATES AND RATIOS

Abortion Ratio:	$\frac{\text{induced abortions}}{\text{live births}}$	x 1,000
Age-Adjusted Death Rate:	$\frac{\sum M_a P_a}{P}$	x 1,000 or 100,000
Where	M_a = age-specific death rate per 1,000 or 100,000 population for a given age-group P_a = standard population in a given age-group P = total standard population	
Age-Specific Death Rate:	$\frac{\text{deaths in a specific age-group}}{\text{population in a specific age-group}}$	x 1,000
Age-Specific Fertility Rate:	$\frac{\text{live births in a specific age-group}}{\text{female population in a specific age-group}}$	x 1,000
Birth Rate:	$\frac{\text{live births}}{\text{total population}}$	x 1,000
Cause-Specific Death Rate:	$\frac{\text{cause-specific deaths}}{\text{total population}}$	x 100,000
Death Rate:	$\frac{\text{total deaths}}{\text{total population}}$	x 1,000
Divorce Rate:	$\frac{\text{divorces}}{\text{total population}}$	x 1,000
Marriage Dissolution Rate:	$\frac{\text{divorces and annulments}}{\text{total population}}$	x 1,000
Fertility Rate:	$\frac{\text{live births}}{\text{female population 15-44}}$	x 1,000
Stillbirth Rate:	$\frac{\text{stillbirths}}{\text{live births + stillbirths}}$	x 1,000
Hebdomadal Death Rate:	$\frac{\text{hebdomadal deaths}}{\text{live births}}$	x 1,000
Infant Death Rate:	$\frac{\text{infant deaths}}{\text{live births}}$	x 1,000
Marriage Rate:	$\frac{\text{marriages}}{\text{total population}}$	x 1,000
Maternal Death Rate:	$\frac{\text{maternal deaths}}{\text{live births}}$	x 10,000

RATES AND RATIOS (Cont.)

Natural Increase Rate:	live birth rate minus total death rate	
Neonatal Death Rate:	$\frac{\text{neonatal deaths}}{\text{live births}}$	x 1,000
Out-of-Wedlock Birth Ratio:	$\frac{\text{out-of-wedlock births}}{\text{live births}}$	x 100
Perinatal Period III Death Rate:	$\frac{\text{perinatal period III deaths}}{\text{live births + stillbirths}}$	x 1,000
Teenage Pregnancy Rate:	live births, stillbirths, abortions for females $\frac{\text{in a specific age-group}}{\text{female population in a specific age-group}}$	x 1,000
Years of Potential Life Lost Rate	$\frac{\text{years of potential life lost}}{\text{population}}$	x 1,000

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

n.s.	not stated
n.a.	not available
n/a	not applicable
0.0	quantity or percent more than zero but less than 0.05.